

## REMARKS

Claims 14-17 are pending in the present application. By the present amendment, claims 15 and 16 have been amended. Reconsideration of all pending claims in light of the amendments thereto and the following remarks is requested.

Claim 14 stands rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,577,928 to Obradovich. Claim 14, as amended, recites a method of scheduling vehicle maintenance. A vehicle mileage is compared to a predetermined mileage required for maintenance and a number of hours of vehicle operation is compared to a predetermined number of hours of vehicle operation. An indication that maintenance is required is provided when the vehicle mileage exceeds the predetermined mileage or when the number of hours of vehicle operation exceeds the predetermined number of hours of vehicle operation. The location of the vehicle is identified and directions to a maintenance facility that is near the vehicle are provided. The vehicle operator is queried to determine whether or not to schedule performance of the required maintenance; and the response to the query is transmitted to a central control system. Support for the amendment to claim 14 can be found, for example, in Figure 12.

Obradovich neither teaches nor suggests the method recited in claim 14. For example, Obradovich does not disclose the steps of querying the vehicle operator to determine whether or not to schedule performance of the maintenance or transmitting the response to the query to a central control system. Obravich simply issues an alert to the user when maintenance is required and advises the user where the nearest service center is located. For at least these reasons, claim 14 is in condition for allowance, as is its dependant claim 15.

Claim 16 has been amended to include a communication link for transmitting a maintenance status to a central control system. As already discussed in conjunction with claim 14, Obradovich neither teaches nor suggests the transmission of maintenance status to a central control system. For at least these reasons, claim 16 is in condition for allowance, as is its dependant claim 17.

All claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance and a notice of allowance is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 23-0630.

Date: 22 FEB 05

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Nock Hinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jennifer" being more prominent.

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